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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
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HEWLETT-PACKARD COMPANY
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EXAMINER

GREIMEL, JOCELYN

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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3693

DATE MAILED: 11/30/2006

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

10/066,238

Applicant(s)

SAYAL ET AL.

Examiner

Jocelyn Greimel

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 30 January 2002.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-20 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-20 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☒ Claim(s) 6-7, 15, 18-20 is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
- Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
- Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413) |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application |
| Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____ | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |

DETAILED ACTION

1. This non-final rejection is in response to Applicant's application filed 30 January 2002. Claims 1-20 are pending and are presented to be examined upon their merits. Claims 1, 8 and 15 are independent claims.

Claim Objections

2. Claim 6 is objected to because of the following informalities: it appears the word "includes" is missing from the preamble section, in the language "the interaction standard." Appropriate correction is required.

3. Claim 15 is objected to because of the following informalities: the wording of the preamble is not clear. The section "a second enterprise in comprising the steps of" is unclear.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 112

4. The following is a quotation of the second paragraph of 35 U.S.C. 112:

The specification shall conclude with one or more claims particularly pointing out and distinctly claiming the subject matter, which the applicant regards as his invention.

5. Claim 15 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, as being incomplete for omitting essential steps, such omission amounting to a gap between the steps. See MPEP § 2172.01. The omitted steps are: the claim describes "when

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communication with an external trading partner is needed” but does not describe what happens when the communication with an external trading partner is not needed within the claim. Appropriate correction is required.

Specification/Claims

6. The use of the trademark or copyright of “RosettaNet” has been noted in this application. If the term is being used in a copyright or trademark sense, it should be capitalized wherever it appears and be accompanied by the generic terminology. Although the use of trademarks is permissible in patent applications, the proprietary nature of the marks should be respected and every effort made to prevent their use in any manner, which might adversely affect their validity as trademarks.

7. Additionally, claims 7 and 18-20 contain template names such as “XQL” and “XML” but the acronyms are not clear in the claim language. Appropriate correction is required.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

8. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary

skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

9. The factual inquiries set forth in *Graham v. John Deere Co.*, 383 U.S. 1, 148 USPQ 459 (1966), that are applied for establishing a background for determining obviousness under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) are summarized as follows:

1. Determining the scope and contents of the prior art.
2. Ascertaining the differences between the prior art and the claims at issue.
3. Resolving the level of ordinary skill in the pertinent art.
4. Considering objective evidence present in the application indicating obviousness or nonobviousness.

10. **Claims 1-20 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Stewart et al (US Patent No. 7,051,072, hereinafter Stewart).** In reference to claims 1 and 8, Stewart discloses a method and system:

- a. receiving a message having the first data representation from the internal business process (abstract; Fig. 1; col. 4, line 65 – col. 6, line 14); and
- b. automatically converting the message having the first data representation into a corresponding message having the communication format specified by the interaction standard (abstract; Fig. 1; col. 4, line 65 – col. 6, line 14).

11. In reference to claims 2 and 9-10, Stewart discloses a method and system:

- c. receiving a message in the communication format from the trading partner (abstract; Fig. 1; col. 4, line 65 – col. 6, line 14); and

d. automatically converting the received message having the communication format specified by the interaction standard into a corresponding message having the first data representation (abstract; Fig. 1).

12. In reference to claims 3-4 and 12-13, Stewart discloses a method and system:

e. wherein the interaction standard is one of a peer-to-peer (P2P) standard and a business-to-business (B2B) standard (col. 1, lines 50-55; col. 4, line 65 – col. 5, line 21);

f. wherein the interaction standard is one of RosettaNet and the Common Business Library (CBL) (col. 4, line 65 – col. 5, line 21).

13. In reference to claims 5, 14 and 16, Stewart discloses:

g. a business internal business process includes at least one workflow;

h. communication with an external trading partner includes the step of polling a workflow server (col. 18, line 49 – col. 19, line 57).

14. In reference to claim 6, Stewart discloses a method and system:

i. wherein the step of automatically converting the message having the first data representation into a corresponding message having the communication format specified by the interaction standard retrieving a service definition (abstract, Fig. 1);

j. retrieving a mark-up language document template; and preparing a mark-up language message that is based on the mark-up language document template (abstract; Fig. 1; col. 4, line 65 – col. 6, line 14).

15. In reference to claim 7, Stewart discloses a method and system:

k. wherein the step of automatically converting the received message having the communication format specified by the interaction standard into a corresponding message having the first data representation includes:

- i. retrieving at least one XQL query (abstract, Fig. 1 and Fig. 25); and
- ii. executing the XQL query to extract the data from the reply (abstract, Fig. 1 and Fig. 25).

16. In reference to claim 11, Stewart discloses the method and system:

l. Wherein the trading partner conversation manager automatically maps a first message with the first data representation into a corresponding first message in the communication format (abstract; Fig. 1); and

m. Automatically maps a second message in the communication format into a corresponding second message in the first data representation (abstract; Fig. 1).

17. In reference to claim 15, Stewart discloses a method and system:

n. including determining whether communication with an external trading partner is needed (abstract; Fig. 1);

- o. when communication with an external trading partner is needed performing the following (abstract; Fig. 1);
- p. determining whether the communication is inbound or outbound (abstract; Fig. 1);
- q. when the communication is inbound, performing inbound communication processing (abstract; Fig. 1); and
- r. when the communication is outbound, performing outbound communication processing (abstract; Fig. 1).

18. In reference to claim 17, Steward discloses a method and system wherein the step of determining whether communication is inbound or outbound includes the step of determining whether a service type is a send message or a receive message (abstract, Fig. 1).

19. In reference to claim 18, Steward discloses a method and system wherein the step of performing inbound communication processing includes the steps of retrieving a service name and XQL queries; parsing the request and extracting data; starting the service and passing data; obtaining service results; retrieving an XML template; preparing an XML response; sending the XML message; and returning control to the workflow server (abstract; Fig. 1; Fig. 25).

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20. In reference to claim 19, Steward discloses a method and system wherein communication processing includes the steps of retrieving a service definition; retrieving an XML template; and step of performing outbound preparing an XML response; and sending the XML message (abstract, Fig. 1, Fig. 25).

21. In reference to claim 20, Steward discloses a method and system wherein the step of performing outbound communication processing further includes the steps of determining if a response is expected; when a response is not expected, returning control to the workflow server; when a response is expected, waiting for the response, retrieving service name and XQL queries, parsing the response and extracting data, and returning control to the workflow server (abstract, Fig. 1, Fig. 25).


Conclusion

22. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Jocelyn Greimel whose telephone number is (571) 272-3734. The examiner can normally be reached Monday - Friday 8:30 AM - 4:30 PM EST. If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, James Trammell can be reached on (571) 272-6712. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

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23. Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

Jocelyn Greimel
Examiner, Art Unit 3693
November 21, 2006


ELLA COLBERT
PRIMARY EXAMINER